



LET'S GO DEEPER

SERMON NOTES The Gift of Hope – December 15 – Pastor Peter

Luke 2:25-32 “At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as You have promised. I have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and He is the glory of Your people Israel!’”

1. The Hope of a Rescuer

Luke 2:25 “He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel.”

He has this living hope. He’s waiting for Messiah and he’s waiting to be rescued.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why is Jesus birth as child so significant?

2. Why does he choose you or me even though we make mistakes?

3. Is there anyone that doesn’t need saving? Why?



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John 4:35 “You know the saying, ‘Four months between planting and harvest.’ But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.”

What do we see when we see people?

Let's place our ears close to God's heart again.

Because when Jesus sees people, He sees that they're lost and broken and they desperately need Him.

2. Hope in the Holy Spirit

And as Simeon is waiting and hoping, he has this amazing experience with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16,17 “And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth.”

The Holy Spirit isn't plan 'B'.

What Jesus did we're called to do.

John 14:12 “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in Me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.”

QUESTIONS:

8. How could the father of the prodigal son reacted to his return?

9. How did he actually react?

10. What does the father's reaction tell you about God?



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The Father's arms are open wide.

Putting it all together (Application)

1. Jesus Came to Rescue Us, Not to Conform to the World's Expectations

Jesus' mission wasn't just about His sacrifice on the cross—it began long before that, in a decision to leave the glory of His throne in heaven. As the creator of all things, He chose to lay down His divine stature and enter the world as a helpless child, born into a poor and humble family. This story defies everything the world would expect. First, the idea that Jesus, God in the flesh, would come down at all seems incomprehensible. Second, if He did become human, surely He would be born into power and wealth, surrounded by influence to fulfill His mission. And third, if Jesus was truly divine, He would never allow Himself to be subjected to the indignities and suffering of human life.

But Jesus wasn't on a mission to elevate Himself. He was on a rescue mission. When you're rescuing someone, nothing matters except bringing them to safety. Jesus wasn't concerned about His worldly status or influence, because those things don't define Him. He was solely focused on rescuing us—bringing us to salvation, showing us the way to redemption. You and me.

A series of horizontal lines for writing notes, consisting of 20 lines.

